UNITED
NATIONS

A

General Assembly

Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.105/SR.1
12 November 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

1980 UNITED NATIONS PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 1st MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 6 November 1980 at 10.15 a.m.

Temporary President: Mr. WALDHEIM (Secretary-General of the United Nations)

President: Mr. MUÑOZ LEDO (Mexico)

later: Mr. SARRE (Senegal)

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The meeting was called to order at 10.25 a.m.

OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE

1. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT said that the 1980 United Nations Pledging Conference was taking place at a particularly opportune time, as the General Assembly was expected to adopt at its current session a new International Development Strategy for the Third United Nations Development Decade. A number of Programmes and Funds falling within the purview of the Conference were adopting far-reaching measures to enable the United Nations system to respond more effectively to the many needs of developing countries in the 1980s. Many policy issues pertaining to the operational activities of the system were coming under the General Assembly's comprehensive review. A particular feature of that review was the concern expressed by a number of Governments about the adequacy of resources for such activities.

2. The Conference, therefore, offered another opportunity for Governments to demonstrate their commitment to continue to provide, on a voluntary basis, resources for the many Programmes and Funds of the United Nations. He was, of course, aware of the recent virtual stagnation, in real terms, in official development assistance (ODA) and of the difficulties which many Governments faced in seeking to increase or even maintain appropriations for it. However, there could be little disagreement over the fact that the provision of an adequate flow of resources on an increasingly assured, continuous and predictable basis constituted an indispensable element of the international community's support for the efforts of developing countries to better their social and economic life. He trusted that the Governments of developed countries would make their best efforts to achieve a rapid and substantial increase in ODA so as to reach and, where possible, surpass the agreed international target of 0.7 per cent of their gross national product (GNP).

3. There was no need to emphasize the very serious situation facing all developing countries, particularly the least developed ones and those whose development needs and problems were greatest. Additional resources to support their efforts were urgently required. Over the last three decades, the United Nations system had developed an efficient institutional capacity for providing multilateral technical co-operation and other forms of assistance to developing countries on a grant basis, funded by voluntary ODA contributions. Stagnation or uncertainty in those contributions could be most harmful to the cause of economic and social development.

4. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) was the largest undertaking in the world for the provision of multilateral technical co-operation. In 1979, UNDP's field expenditures had been more than 25 per cent higher than in the previous year and they were expected to register a similar increase in 1980. Perhaps the most significant indication of the emerging role of UNDP was the way in which it had reoriented its efforts to give greater attention to the needs of

(The Temporary President)

the least developed and other low-income developing countries. A major step in that direction had been taken with the establishment of the pattern of resource allocation for the 1982-1986 planning cycle. Whereas some 64 per cent of UNDP's work was currently carried on in developing countries with a per capita GNP of less than $500, those countries would before long be receiving close to 80 per cent of UNDP's resources.

5. UNDP's funding needs required an average annual growth in voluntary contributions of 14 per cent. That requirement was modest in view of the prevailing rates of inflation.

6. The contributions of participants could help to ensure that the UNDP plan for 1977-1981 could be carried out in full and a sound basis provided for meeting the new challenges and opportunities of 1982 and succeeding years of the 1982-1986 planning cycle.

7. In recent years, UNDP had also been successfully administering several United Nations trust funds which sought to respond to one or another imperative of development.

8. The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) served to channel small amounts of capital for self-help investment activities specifically to the poorest communities in the poorest countries. The Fund was preparing to double its operations, and he had great confidence that it would attract increased contributions well beyond the $27 million pledged the previous year.

9. A much younger fund, operational since May, was the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development. The substantial demands of developing countries on that Fund required contributions well in excess of the amount pledged to it so far, which was considerably below the initial financing goal of $250 million. He understood that a number of Governments were undertaking a high-level initiative to secure a substantial volume of new resources for the Fund.

10. The United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office (UNSO) had 100 ongoing projects under its multisectoral programme for rehabilitation and development in the eight drought-stricken countries of the Sahel. In addition to its original objectives, UNSO had initiatied activities in connexion with its new responsibility of assisting, on behalf of UNEP, the anti-desertification efforts of 15 countries in the affected areas of Africa. The total cost of some 107 priority desertification control projects that had been planned was far in excess of the amounts pledged to date.

11. There were other smaller UNDP-administered funds, such as the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries and the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers programme, which also needed increased contributions. Moreover, the Conference would wish to take note of the recent initiative of the UNDP Governing Council in proposing the establishment of a special energy account.

(The Temporary President)

12. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) was currently engaged in three distinct yet interrelated missions of critical importance to children, the world's most valuable yet vulnerable resource. UNICEF continued its original mission of emergency relief and rehabilitation in the aftermath of disaster, as exemplified by its responsibility as the lead agency of the United Nations system for relief currently being provided to the Kampuchean people and its providing emergency assistance for children elsewhere. But its larger, ongoing mission was to respond to the silent emergency which daily afflicted hundreds of millions of children as a consequence of extreme poverty. In pursuance of the mandate given it by the General Assembly, UNICEF served as the lead agency for following up on the developmental aspects flowing from the International Year of the Child.

13. For 1981, the UNICEF Executive Board had authorized programmes totalling $235 million, not including the Kampuchean operation. While that was an increase of $30 million over 1980, in real value terms it represented only a very small addition at a time of growing need. It was imperative to enable UNICEF to enhance its leadership role in assisting countries to improve the conditions and prospects of their children.

14. The United Nations Industrial Development Fund (UNIDF) was intended to increase the ability of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) to respond promptly and flexibly to the needs of the developing countries by supplementing the resources of UNDP in fostering their accelerated and self-sustained growth in the industrial field. It required an annual funding level of $50 million, which entailed a greater inflow of resources than it currently received.

15. The Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women supported activities geared specifically to helping rural women and poor women in urban areas to make their maximum contribution to national development. There was an urgent need to increase its resources. The Fund's projected requirements were $6 million for 1981 and $10 million annually thereafter.

16. The International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) offered new approaches for the full integration of women in development. It had already produced several publications and initiated the exchange of scholars. Its activities of research, training and information for women needed to be sustained by contributions from the international community.

17. There was a gap of approximately $8 million between the resources available to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation (UNHHSF) and the requirements of the 1980-1981 work programme, which had been approved by the Commission on Human Settlements and was focused on improving living conditions in both urban and rural settlements throughout the world, with particular emphasis on the needs of the poorest segments of the population. He was confident that the pledges made at the Conference would enable the Foundation to implement its ongoing work programme.

(The Temporary President)

18. The United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) had financed projects in 131 countries and territories. It was his hope that all countries would announce substantial increases in their pledges to the Fund in order to permit it to reach its 1981 target of $159 million and meet the expectations of developing countries in their population projects and programmes.

19. Finally, the years 1978-1988 had been proclaimed as the Transport and Communications Decade for Africa. More than any other continent, Africa depended for its development upon the facilitation of transport and communications and the elimination of trade barriers among its countries. The entire United Nations system was devoting its energies to carrying out the approved programme for the Decade; the first phase of which, covering the years 1980-1983, was estimated to cost approximately $9 billion. To date, funding of the order of $2.4 billion had been made available for 100 projects. Nevertheless, difficulties were being encountered in the implementation of regional and subregional projects, and specific studies which would pave the way for the execution of the second phase of the programme. The cost of the studies, which the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) was well placed to execute, was estimated at $750 million. The provision of the necessary resources would enhance the effectiveness of ECA in the implementation of the Programme for the Decade. It was necessary for donor countries to bear those considerations in mind as they sought the best means of ensuring the success of the Decade, which was eagerly expected by African countries in view of commitments previously made by the international community.

20. He was confident that the results of the Conference would once again fully reflect the spirit of international solidarity which motivated development assistance. The contributions of States would demonstrate the importance which they attached to the Programmes and Funds of the United Nations system and their key role in development, and show that the international community was fully responsive to current needs and future challenges for the social and economic progress of an increasingly interdependent world.

21. The 1980 Pledging Conference was governed by the rules of procedure contained in document A/33/580; the agenda was to be found in rule 9.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

(a) PRESIDENT

22. The TEMPORARY PRESIDENT said that he understood that informal consultations among delegations had led to a general agreement to elect Mr. Porfirio Muñoz Ledo, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the United Nations, as President of the Conference.

23. If there was no objection, he would take it that the participants wished, as at past pledging conferences, to proceed with the election on the basis of a consensus reached among delegations, thus dispensing with the procedure of formal balloting.

24. Mr. Muñoz Ledo (Mexico) was elected President by acclamation.

25. Mr. Muñoz Ledo (Mexico) took the Chair.

26. The PRESIDENT said that his country attached great importance to the system of development assistance, which was an institutional dimension of international economic co-operation and a reflection of the desire for change in the international economic order. Making contributions on a predictable, assured and continuous basis made it possible to give effect to the principle of equity in meeting the needs of the developing countries, particularly in the social sphere. It was also a sign of the commitment of States to the work of the United Nations and enabled its various Funds to plan their activities and implement their projects, thereby giving concrete expression to the principle of international solidarity on a daily basis in every area of the world.

(b) VICE-PRESIDENTS

27. The PRESIDENT said he understood that there was general agreement on the election of Mr. Sarre (Senegal), Mr. Domokos (Hungary), Mr. Ghikas (Greece) and Mr. El-Jeaan (Kuwait) as Vice-Presidents of the Conference.

28. Mr. Sarre (Senegal), Mr. Domokos (Hungary), Mr. Ghikas (Greece) and Mr. El-Jeaan (Kuwait) were elected Vice-Presidents by acclamation.

STATEMENTS REGARDING PLEDGES

(a) ORAL STATEMENTS

29. Mr. GRANT (Executive Director, United Nations Children's Fund) said that on 26 September 1980 he had informed the Second Committee of the General Assembly of the anticipated establishment of a Gulf Arab Special Foundation for United Nations Social Development Activities as a result of the efforts of the Special Envoy of UNICEF, Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz al Saud of Saudi Arabia. He had been informed only the day before that the Gulf Arab States had given their formal endorsement to the proposal and that specific details, including initial funding levels, would be communicated later in November.

30. The representative of GUYANA said his Government pledged $G 13,440 to UNICEF, $G 1,000 to UNFPA, $G 1,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $G 3,000 to UNIDF, $G 8,000 to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development and $G 558,120 to UNDP, which included the programme cost element. Despite the limitations faced by his Government as a result of financial stringency, its 1981 contribution to UNDP was more than 50 per cent higher than its contribution for the previous year. That increase was tangible proof of the importance his Government attached to the development activities of the United Nations and its efforts to meet the target of a general increase of 14 per cent in contributions to UNDP.

31. The representative of HAITI said that his Government would contribute $US 500 to UNICEF, $US 1,000 to UNFPA and $US 500 to UNHHSF and that it would announce the amount of its contributions to other Funds at a future date.

32. The representative of the HOLY SEE pledged contributions of $US 2,000 to UNDP and $US 1,000 to UNICEF. The Holy See intended its contribution to UNICEF to be used for the education of children, since it had reservations with regard to certain of the Fund's family planning programmes. In that connexion, the emphasis placed in recent United Nations documents on the essential role of the family in the balanced development of children should be reflected to a greater extent in the various programmes of the Organization.

33. The representative of HONDURAS said that his Government had not yet determined the amount it would contribute to UNICEF, but that, in any event, its contribution would not be less than in 1980. He pledged 53,000 lempiras, or the equivalent of $US 26,000, to UNDP, which represented an increase over his country's 1980 contribution, despite the economic difficulties it was facing. In addition, local costs for UNDP projects would amount to L60,000. He also pledged L20,000 to UNFPA and L2,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. His Government's contribution to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development would be announced at a later stage.

34. The representative of HUNGARY announced a contribution of 10.3 million forints to UNDP in 1981. If necessary, 10 per cent of that amount could be used by UNDP in convertible currency for the purpose of facilitating the utilization of the forint portion of the contribution, mainly for the financing of travel costs. In addition to its voluntary contribution, Hungary would in 1981 transfer to UNDP in national currency the amounts previously known as "assessed programme costs". That pledge represented an increase of more than 14 per cent over Hungary's 1980 contribution and reflected his Government's recognition of the useful work carried out under UNDP auspices. Hungary would contribute Ft 1.5 million to UNIDF; as in the case of UNDP, 10 per cent could be used in convertible currencies for the purpose of promoting the utilization of the forint portion of the contribution. He pledged contributions of Ft 500,000 to UNICEF, Ft 250,000 to UNFPA, Ft 100,000 to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and Ft 500,000 to the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP). His country would endeavour to continue its long-standing practice of making its contributions early in the year in order to promote sound financial planning of United Nations development activities.

35. The representative of ICELAND said that, subject to parliamentary approval, his Government would contribute 52,143,000 krónur to UNDP, 13,075,000 krónur to UNICEF, $US 2,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women and $US 9,000 to the World Food Programme (WFP).

36. The representative of INDIA said that his country was an important partner of UNDP, both as a donor and as a recipient. He pledged 63 million rupees, the equivalent of $US 8 million, in non-convertible currency, to UNDP. That amount was 5 per cent higher than the previous year's contribution. India would also contribute $US 1 million to UNIDF, 80 per cent of which would be in convertible currency; Rs 15 million to UNICEF - an increase of more than 15 per cent over the previous year's pledge; Rs 2.5 million to UNFPA; $US 15,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, an amount 50 per cent higher than its contribution for 1980; $US 5,000 in convertible currency, to the United Nations

(The representative of India)

Volunteers Programme; and $US 100,000 each year for 1980 and 1981 to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, 30 per cent of which would be paid in convertible currency. His Government was actively considering its contribution to UNHHSF and would announce its decision shortly.

37. The representative of INDONESIA said that, as a reaffirmaton of his Government's commitment to the noble goal of international development, it would contribute $US 250,000 to UNICEF, $US 1,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, and $US 1,000 to INSTRAW, subject to parliamentary approval. His Government was not in a position to announce its contribution to the remaining funds, but would undoubtedly continue to support most if not all of those to which it had previously contributed. The exact amounts of its contributions would be communicated to the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

38. The representative of IRAQ announced contributions of 150,000 dinars to UNDP, ID 36,000 to UNICEF, ID 22,500 to UNEP, ID 3,000 to UNHHSF, ID 4,452 to UNFPA, $US 300,000 to UNIDF, ID 4,000 to UNCDF and ID 73,000 to regional programmes.

39. The representative of IRELAND said that for reasons of budgetary procedure his Government was not yet in a position to announce its contribution; it would inform the Secretary-General in due course of the amount of its pledges.

40. The representative of ISRAEL said that, because of economic difficulties and serious budgetary constraints, his Government was unable to increase its pledges over the amounts contributed in 1980. Accordingly, subject to final government approval, Israel would contribute 450,000 shekels, fully convertible, to UNDP, $US 45,000 to UNICEF and $US 3,000 to UNITAR.

41. The representative of ITALY announced that his country's contribution to UNDP would be increased from its 1980 level of 13 billion lire to 21 billion lire, or approximately $US 23.3 million at current exchange rates. Italy's contribution to UNICEF, which had been Lit 2.5 billion for 1980, would be almost trebled, to Lit 6 billion. In addition, his country intended to contribute to the special project for assistance to refugee mothers and children from Afghanistan. It would also contribute Lit 2 billion to UNCDF, and a further Lit 2 billion to UNIDF.

42. He also announced a substantially increased contribution to UNFPA of Lit 1 billion and a grant to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women of Lit 150 million. All the sums pledged were fully convertible and subject to parliamentary approval.

43. In conclusion, he drew attention to the fact that Italy was already a major contributor to the interim fund for science and technology for development, to which it had pledged Lit 8 billion, and said that it expected to increase its grant to WFP significantly.

44. The representative of the IVORY COAST said that his delegation could not announce any contributions before his Government approved the annual budget. The Secretariat would be notified of his country's contributions in due course.

45. The representative of JAMAICA announced contributions of $US 67,978 to UNDP, $US 3,000 to UNCDF and $US 4,000 to UNIDF. Jamaica was also considering contributions to other programmes and funds, of which the Secretariat would be notified in the near future.

46. The representative of JORDAN said that his country had already pledged $US 10,000 to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development and $US 60,000 to WFP, representing an increase of 33 per cent over two years. Jordan would continue to support United Nations operational activities for development, and UNDP, UNICEF and UNIDF in particular. Other contributions would be given due consideration during the final review of the Jordanian budget.

47. The representative of KENYA said that, despite its limited resources, his country would maintain its contributions to United Nations operational activities for development at their current level and increase them wherever possible. The exact amounts to be contributed would be communicated to the Secretariat in due course. He wished to point out that the Kenyan currency was fully convertible.

48. The representative of KUWAIT announced contributions of $US 570,000 to UNDP, $US 100,000 to UNICEF and $US 50,000 to UNIDF, all in fully convertible currency. The Secretariat would be notified later of other pledges.

49. The representative of the LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC said that, despite serious economic difficulties following two unprecedented natural disasters in 1977 and 1978, his country had increased its contribution to UNDP for 1980 by 14 per cent, to $US 19,660. Its contribution for 1981 would be the same, namely, the equivalent of $US 19,660 in national currency, and its contributions to UNFPA, UNIDF and UNICEF would remain at their 1980 levels of $500, $1,500 and $5,000, respectively. He also announced contributions of $1,500 for UNCDF and $1,000 for the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, to which his Government attached particular importance.

50. The representative of LEBANON announced contributions of $US 340,000 to UNDP and $US 25,000 to UNICEF. The Secretariat would be notified later of other contributions.

51. The representative of the LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA announced contributions of $US 1,150,000 to UNDP; $US 75,000 to UNICEF; $US 20,000 to UNFPA; $US 85,000 to UNIDF; and $US 25,000 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). Other contributions by his country would be announced at a later stage.

52. The representative of LUXEMBOURG announced that, subject to parliamentary approval, his country would contribute 3,735,000 Luxembourg francs to UNDP; F850,000 to UNICEF; F265,000 to UNFPA; and F290,000 to UNIDF, all amounts being fully convertible.

53. The representative of MADAGASCAR announced contributions of 500,000 Malagasy francs to UNHCR; fmG million to UNICEF; fmG 500,000 to UNHHSF; fmG 500,000 to the trust fund of UNDRO; $US 400 to UNFPA; and fmG 2 million to WFP. Madagascar would also make a contribution to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, in an amount to be determined at a later stage.

54. Mr. Sarre (Senegal) took the Chair.

55. The representative of MALAYSIA announced a contribution of $US 340,000 to UNDP. His country would also contribute $US 78,400 to UNICEF, $US 20,000 to UNIDF, $US 10,000 to UNFPA, $US 2,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, and $US 10,000 to UNEP. All contributions would be made in fully convertible currencies.

56. The representative of MALDIVES said that, in spite of economic difficulties resulting from inflation and the high cost of commodities on the world market, his country had found it appropriate to increase its contributions to operational activities for development by some 20 per cent as a sign of its appreciation for the assistance received. It would therefore contribute $US 1,800 to UNDP, together with the equivalent of a further $US 15,000 in non-convertible local currency for the maintenance of the UNDP office in Maldives. It would also contribute $US 3,000 to UNICEF, $US 600 to UNCDF and $US 871 to UNFPA.

57. The representative of MAURITANIA expressed satisfaction at the fact that the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities was covered by the pledging conference for the first time: it was to be hoped that the Fund would attract generous contributions. Subject to his Government's approval, he announced contributions of $US 4,000 to UNDP, $US 4,000 to UNFPA and $US 2,000 to UNICEF.

58. The representative of MEXICO announced contributions, subject to approval by the Mexican authorities concerned, of $US 1,673,809.52 to UNDP; $US 14,372.29 to UNIDF; $US 286,753.25 to UNICEF; $US 5,757.58 to INSTRAW; and $US 11,471.86 to UNFPA. He drew attention to the fact that Mexico's contributions to UNIDF, UNICEF, the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women and UNFPA had all increased by more than the 14 per cent, which it had set itself as a target, while its contribution to UNDP had risen by more than 40 per cent.

59. Mexico's contributions to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development and UNCDF would be announced in due course; Mexico was aware that all the countries that had taken part in the Vienna Conference on Science and Technology for Development must make a special effort to bring the resources of the Interim Fund up to the targeted level of $250 million for the biennium 1980-1981. In that connexion, it enthusiastically endorsed the efforts of a representative group of developing countries that would shortly be initiating high-level contacts with potential donor countries so as to stress the importance they attached to science and technology, which could greatly enhance international co-operation.

60. The representative of MONACO announced, subject to parliamentary approval of the Monegasque budget, contributions of 22,000 francs to UNDP and 20,000 francs to UNICEF.

61. The representative of MONGOLIA announced contributions of 80,000 tughriks - the approximate equivalent of $US 20,000 - to UNDP; 7,000 tughriks to UNIDF; the equivalent in tughriks of $US 3,500 to UNICEF; and $US 500 to UNFPA as a first token of his country's support for the activities of that Fund. In addition, Mongolia would contribute the equivalent of $US 160,000 to UNDP as its share of programme costs. It attached particular importance to operational activities falling under the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, and was looking forward to further co-operation with that Fund.

62. The representative of MOROCCO announced contributions of 1,595,000 dirhams to UNDP; $US 5,000 to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers Programme; $US 5,000 to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development; and DH 50,627 to UNIDF. Moreover, Morocco would contribute $US 100,000 to UNICEF - $65,000 for the maintenance of the Paris office and $35,000 for the maintenance of the office in Algeria; $US 64,000 to UNFPA; and $US 50,000 to WFP. Financial difficulties had prevented his country from increasing its contributions, but it had maintained them at their previous levels as a sign of its confidence in the programmes and funds concerned. It hoped, with parliamentary approval, to increase its contribution to UNDP by 10 per cent. Finally, he expressed his gratitude to the Gulf States for the welcome establishment of the Special Foundation, announced earlier in the meeting by the Executive Director of UNICEF.

63. The representative of the NETHERLANDS said that his Government viewed the financing of United Nations development activities as the collective responsibility of all Member States and considered that those activities should be financed increasingly from the regular budget of the United Nations. Meanwhile, more equitable participation on a voluntary basis was needed. The Netherlands alone had accounted for some 10 per cent of all contributions to UNDP in 1980 and some 39 per cent of UNCDF resources up to the end of 1980. His Government was therefore pleased that the Second Committee had recently adopted a draft resolution calling for an increase in voluntary contributions to the system's operational activities. The heads of the funds and programmes concerned should continue their efforts to attract new donors.

64. To allow the system to operate with maximum efficiency, some means of financing the system on a multiyear basis must be found. While it was each Government's exclusive prerogative to decide how to attain that objective within its national legal constraints, Governments were masters of their own actions and legal constraints could be adjusted.

65. While his delegation fully respected the right of every State to decide on the currency or currencies in which it made its contributions, donor countries and organizations within the system must also respect recipient countries' prerogative to decide how to use the funds allotted to them. It was unfair to blame the administrators of programmes if large amounts of unusable currency were left unspent: the responsibility lay squarely with the donor countries.

(The representative of the Netherlands)

66. The Netherlands favoured multiyear planning, and would attempt to introduce it once it had solved some of the budgetary difficulties that arose in that regard.

67. The Netherlands pledges showed little or no increase over those for the previous year, partly because the Government believed it was already doing its share in the financing of operational activities, and partly because the country's GNP had grown hardly at all over the past year.

68. He announced contributions, subject to parliamentary approval, of 153 million guilders (approximately $US 74 million) to UNDP; f. 18.5 million to UNCDF; f. 15.5 million to UNICEF; f. 33 million to UNFPA; f. 300,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; f. 600,000 to UNHHSF; and f. 200,000 to the United Nations Volunteers Programme.

69. In conclusion, he recalled that, at the eleventh special session of the General Assembly the Netherlands had announced a special contribution of f. 5 million to UNDP, and said that his Government would consider how much it could channel to the United Nations Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities in 1981.

70. The representative of NEW ZEALAND said that it was his Government's hope at least to maintain the 1980 level of contributions. At the current stage of its budgetary cycle it was not in a position to announce all its pledges for 1981. However, in the belief that early payment would be of assistance, it had already disbursed its contribution of $NZ 1.25 million to UNDP and, in addition, as announced at the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women, it would contribute a further $NZ 10,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the Decade.

71. The representative of NIGERIA announced that his Government would contribute 500,000 nairas to UNDP, or the equivalent of $US 900,000. Its contributions for other activities would be made known once the necessary parliamentary approval had been given.

72. The representative of NORWAY said that, in the light of his Government's strong view that the financing of United Nations operational activities for development should take place on a secure, predictable and long-term basis, it would pledge its contributions for 1981 and indicate its planned contributions for 1982 and 1983. Subject to parliamentary approval, his country's ODA would be calculated on the basis of 1 per cent of GNP. He therefore announced a contribution of Nkr 283 million, or approximately $US 57.7 million, to UNDP for 1981, and indicated that his Government's contributions to the Programme for 1982 and 1983 would be of the order of Nkr 300 million and Nkr 315 million. Its contribution to UNCDF for 1981 would total Nkr 17 million, the indicative figures for 1982 and 1983 being Nkr 18 million and Nkr 19 million, respectively. It would contribute Nkr 70 million to UNICEF for 1981, plus a further Nkr 17.5 million for "noted" projects. The indicative figures for 1982 and 1983 were Nkr 75 million and Nkr 80 million respectively. He expressed his delegation's appreciation to the Gulf Arab States for approving the establishment of the Special Foundation announced by the Executive Director of UNICEF.

(The representative of Norway)

73. His country's contribution to UNFPA for 1981 would be Nkr 70 million, plus a further Nkr 9 million for "noted" projects. The indicative figures for 1982 and 1983 would be Nkr 75 million and Nkr 80 million respectively.

74. The sum of Nkr 10 million already pledged for the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development would be paid to the Fund in 1981. His Government's 1981 contribution to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women would be Nkr 1.5 million, and it intended to contribute the same amount annually for the remainder of the Decade up to and including 1985.

75. Finally, he announced that his Government had pledged to contribute Nkr 100 million to WFP for 1981, and had indicated a contribution of Nkr 105 million for 1982. Total contributions from his country to United Nations operational activities for development for 1981 would amount to $US 117.6 million, representing a per capita contribution of $US 29.40.

76. The representative of OMAN announced contributions by his Government of $US 75,000 to UNDP, $US 50,000 to UNICEF, $US 12,000 to UNIDF, $US 10,000 to UNITAR, $US 10,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, and $US 10,000 to UNFPA.

77. The representative of PAKISTAN said that, despite Pakistan's limited resources and difficult economic circumstances, his Government had decided to increase its voluntary contributions to UNDP by 15 per cent to a total of 15,541,800 Pakistan rupees. Its contribution to UNFPA would be increased by 10 per cent to PRs 275,000. The substantial increases in its contributions were indicative not only of its appreciation for the assistance that those bodies were providing to its own development, but also of its commitment to the attainment of the targets set by the relevant intergovernmental bodies. It hoped that developed donor countries would also live up to the commitments they had undertaken, in particular with respect to voluntary contributions to UNDP.

78. He also announced a contribution of PRs 952,000 to UNCDF. He pledged PRs 747,500 to UNICEF, of which PRs 180,000 would be paid in foreign exchange; in addition, the sum of PRs 830,000 had been earmarked for administrative expenses in Pakistan. His delegation welcomed the announcement of the establishment of the Gulf Arab Special Foundation for United Nations Social Development Activities.

79. His Government would further contribute $US 5,000 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), as well as PRs 100,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, PRs 50,000 to INSTRAW and PRs 100,000 to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development. Information regarding other contributions would be communicated to the Secretariat in due course.

80. The representative of PANAMA announced his Government's contributions of 1,000 balboas to UNIDF, B1,000 to UNFPA, B22,000 to UNICEF, B500 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and B120,000 to UNDP. His Government's contribution to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration would be B1,000. Owing to the economic straits in which it found itself as a result of inflation, it could not make any pledge for any other programme at the current stage, although it would try to maintain its contributions at the 1980 level, if possible.

81. Mr. Muñoz Ledo (Mexico) resumed the Chair.

82. The representative of PAPUA NEW GUINEA announced his Government's pledge of 18,000 kinas (approximately $US 27,600) to UNDP, $US 6,000 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and 1,000 kinas to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. In addition, it would contribute $US 140,000 towards UNDP programme costs. Its other contributions would be determined at a later stage and communicated to the Secretariat.

83. The representative of PARAGUAY announced that his Government would contribute to $US 6,000 to UNIDF, $US 7,000 to UNICEF, $US 15,000 to UNFPA and $US 20,000 to UNDP.

84. The representative of PERU said that, despite Peru's economic difficulties, his Government would make a contribution to UNDP in an amount which would be communicated later, but which would be aimed at meeting the target of a 14 per cent increase. It would likewise make a contribution to the UNIDF and to UNFPA. It would also make a contribution to assist the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development to reach its target. He was convinced that his Government would succeed in overcoming its existing financial constraints and would therefore be able to contribute to other development programmes.

85. The representative of the PHILIPPINES announced a contribution of $US 413,000 to UNICEF, $US 22,500 to UNIDF, $US 5,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, and $US 2,500 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries. Its contributions to other funds and programmes would be announced at a later date.

86. The representative of POLAND said that, as an indication of its continued support for the operational activities undertaken by the United Nations system, and in recognition of the fact that UNDP was the principal instrument of multilateral technical co-operation within that system, his Government had decided to increase its voluntary contribution by 14 per cent to an amount of $44,850,000 zlotys. In addition, it would contribute an amount of Zł 3.9 million to programme costs.

87. He further announced a contribution of Zł 6,945,000 to UNICEF. Recognizing the specific situation of UNIDO which was in the process of becoming a specialized agency, it had decided to increase its voluntary contribution to UNIDF by 40 per cent, making a total of Zł 3.5 million.

88. The representative of PORTUGAL said that, despite being a small State which was suffering from the world economic crisis, his country had decided to increase its contribution to UNICEF and to UNFPA by 50 per cent and its contribution to UNIDF by 25 per cent, making a total of $US 15,000 for each. In the light of the consultations with UNDP which had taken place recently in Lisbon, a pledge to the Programme would be announced at a later stage.

89. The representative of QATAR said that, as an expression of its support for the important role being played by United Nations agencies in development activities, his Government had decided to pledge a sum of $US 200,000 to UNDP, a further $US 200,000 to UNICEF, a sum of $US 25,000 to UNIDF, the sum of $US 10,000 each to UNFPA and to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), and a sum of $US 5,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women.

90. The representative of the REPUBLIC OF KOREA announced a contribution of $US 838,000 to UNDP, of which $US 550,000 represented the voluntary contribution and the remainder a contribution to programme costs. He said that his Government would contribute $US 30,000 to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development and also make all possible efforts to co-operate in the field of science and technology with other developing countries on a bilateral or regional basis. It would contribute $US 30,000 to UNIDF, representating an increase of 50 per cent over the previous year. In addition, it intended to contribute $US 128,000 to UNICEF, $US 41,000 to UNFPA, and $US 20,000 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat). All those pledges were subject to parliamentary approval.

91. The representative of ROMANIA said that, in the spirit of co-operation which already existed between his country and UNDP, his Government intended to make a voluntary contribution of 7.2 million lei, representing a 20 per cent increase over its previous contribution. It would also contribute 60,000 lei to UNFPA and 550,000 lei to UNICEF. A contribution to UNIDF was under active consideration and would be announced at a later stage.

92. The representative of SAMOA said that his Government intended to contribute to UNDP and to other Funds, but discussion of the exact amount had not yet been completed. The Secretariat would be informed of Samoa's contributions at a later stage.

93. The representative of SAUDI ARABIA announced that his Government would contribute $US 1 million to UNIDF, $US 2.5 million to UNDP and $US 10,000 to UNITAR. Its contribution to UNICEF would be announced at a later date.

94. The representative of SENEGAL announced that his Government would contribute $US 160,000 to UNDP, $US 60,820 to UNCDF, $US 40,000 to UNFPA, $US 5,000 to the Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, $US 2,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, $US 3,000 to the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees and $US 2,000 to UNIDF.

95. The representative of SEYCHELLES said that her country was subject to many economic constraints but, unfortunately, aid had not been forthcoming. Despite that, it would contribute $US 1,000 to UNICEF, $US 1,000 to UNDP and $US 1,000 to UNFPA.

96. The representative of SIERRA LEONE announced that his Government would contribute $US 5,000 to UNIDF. A contribution in the same amount had already been made to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development. The Secretariat would be informed of any other contributions as soon as possible. In the meantime, he renewed his Government's commitment to and support for the development activities of the United Nations system, from which it had benefited enormously over the years.

97. The representative of SPAIN expressed support for the statement made by the representative of the Netherlands, especially with respect to the need for contributions to be made by all countries that were in a position to do so and to be provided in convertible currency. There were many countries, including his own, whose currency was not freely convertible. However, his Government made the necessary effort to furnish its contributions in convertible currency. Subject to parliamentary approval it would contribute $US 1,901,000 to UNDP, representing a 14 per cent increase over its previous contribution; $US 228,000 to UNICEF, a 20 per cent increase; and the sum of $US 60,000 each to UNFPA and to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women.

98. The representative of SRI LANKA said that the international community had an obligation to provide adequate resources to meet the development needs of the developing countries. His country had always given whatever support it could to United Nations programmes. It intended to contribute $US 600,000, payable in local currency, to UNDP; $US 7,500, payable in local currency, to UNFPA: $US 3,000 to UNIDF; $US 2,000 to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat); and 200,000 Sri Lanka rupees to UNICEF. The Government was considering increasing its contribution to UNICEF in light of the extension of the UNICEF programme in his country. On behalf of his Government, he expressed sincere thanks for all the assistance programmes from which Sri Lanka had benefited.

99. The representative of the SUDAN announced that his Government would contribute $US 200,000 to UNDP, $US 25,000 to UNFPA, $US 5,000 to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, $US 35,000 to UNICEF, $US 10,000 to UNIDF, and $US 1,500 to UNEP. In addition, it would make grains available to WFP to the value of 10,000 Sudanese pounds.

100. It warmly welcomed the announcement by the Executive Director of UNICEF with regard to the establishment of the Gulf Arab Special Foundation. With respect to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, it hoped that the necessary resources would be mobilized to enable the Fund successfully and effectively to play its role in contributing to the development of the developing countries.

101. The representative of SURINAME said that his Government attached particular importance to the work of UNDP, which was involved in the development process in his country. Despite its budgetary problems, Suriname would increase its contribution to UNDP by more than 14 per cent, to an amount of $US 82,500. It would also contribute $US 2,500 to UNFPA and $US 2,000 to UNIDF.

102. The representative of SWAZILAND announced contributions of 6,500 emalangeni to UNICEF, 7,500 emalangeni to UNDP and a further 7,500 emalangeni to help meet the expenses of the local UNDP office. Instructions were awaited from his Government as to when those payments would be scheduled.

103. The representative of SWEDEN said that, in its belief that assistance should be made available to the developing countries on a continuous, assured and more predictable basis, long-term planning being matched by multiyear commitments from donors, her Government had decided to make three-year pledges to UNDP, UNCDF, UNFPA and UNICEF, subject to parliamentary approval. Consequently, it would contribute 335 million kronor to UNDP for 1981 and SKr 690 million for the following two years together, making a total of almost a quarter of a billion United States dollars. In addition, it pledged a firm minimum contribution to UNDP for the least developed countries amounting to SKr 35 million for 1981, and SKr 17 million for 1982 and 1983. Contributions in excess of the minimum might be considered in some cases on condition that UNDP activity warranted such increases, and that other donors showed a will to bear their appropriate share of the Programme's financing. Her country was currently contributing more than 12 per cent of total UNDP resources.

104. Its contribution to UNCDF represented 28 per cent of that Fund's resources. It was hoped that new donors would join, and that others would give more substantial contributions. Her Government's contribution would be SKr 30 million per year for 1981, 1982 and 1983 - a total of approximately $US 20 million. Its contribution to UNFPA for the three-year period 1981-1983 would amount to SKr 45 million per annum, or a total of some $US 30 million.

105. Her Government's contribution to UNICEF for the three-year period 1981-1983 would amount to SKr 130 million per year, or a total of some $US 90 million. She expressed appreciation to the Gulf Arab States for the decision to set up the Foundation mentioned by the Executive Director.

106. Her country's share of total contributions to all those operational activities was exceptionally high; it hoped that the situation would change through increased contributions from other donors.

107. In support of the technical assistance programme of the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat), her Government would again make a contribution of SKr 1 million. Through the Swedish International Development Authority, which had agreed on a programme of co-operation with UNIDO, perhaps amounting to as much as SKr 5 million, special-purpose assistance would be provided for training and seminars, appropriate technology, and associated experts.

(The representative of Sweden)

108. She confirmed that her Government would make an additional contribution of $US 200,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; that amount was payable in two instalments, in 1981 and 1982.

109. Her Government had pledged to contribute $US 5 million to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development. Given the Fund's very difficult financial situation, it urged all potential donor countries that had expressed support for the Fund at the Vienna Conference and in the General Assembly to translate that support into pledges as soon as possible.

110. The representative of SWITZERLAND said that his Government's contributions were evidence of the importance it attached to United Nations development activities. He took the opportunity to reiterate the confidence of his authorities in the various bodies and agencies of the system responsible for co-operation, and to pay tribute to the competence and devotion of their staff. Subject to parliamentary approval of further appropriations for development co-operation, his Government proposed to contribute 30.2 million Swiss francs, or approximately $US 17.35 million to UNDP, SwF 3 million to UNFPA, SwF 3.5 million to UNCDF, and SwF 4 million to the UNDP Special Measures Fund for the Least Developed Countries. Favourable consideration was also being given to making a contribution to the UNDP energy fund.

111. In addition, SwF 80,000 would be contributed to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women. A general contribution of SwF 6.75 million would be made to UNICEF, together with special contributions up to a total of SwF 9.25 million. A contribution of $US 2 million had already been pledged to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development and, as already indicated, his Government was ready to make a contribution to match 2 per cent of the total voluntary contributions made to the Interim Fund for the biennium 1980-1981. Finally, an amount of SwF 62,000 would be made available for UNITAR.

The meeting rose at 1.10 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.105/SR.2
20 November 1980
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: SPANISH

1980 UNITED NATIONS PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 2nd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Thursday, 6 November 1980, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. MUÑOZ LEDO (Mexico)
later: Mr. GHIKAS (Greece)
later: Mr. EL-JEAAN (Kuwait)

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(a) Oral statements (continued)

(b) Announcement of written pledges

Organization of work

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The meeting was called to order at 3.10 p.m.

STATEMENTS REGARDING PLEDGES (continued)

(a) ORAL STATEMENTS (continued)

1. The representative of TOGO said that his Government attached importance to operational activities for development, to which it had traditionally contributed as its means allowed. However, his Government was not at present in a position to make a pledge, and the amount of its contributions would be communicated to the Secretary-General at a later date.

2. The representative of THAILAND said that his Government had always supported development activities. However, its pledges were subject to constitutional procedures. For 1981, the Government would contribute $801,030 to UNDP, together with an additional contribution in national currency equivalent to $472,020, making a total for UNDP of $1,273,050. In addition, it pledged $1,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries and $1,500 to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers. He confirmed the pledge of $50,000 to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development made by his delegation on 27 March 1980. Thailand would contribute to UNICEF $112,500 and a sum in national currency equivalent to $103,251, so that its total contribution for 1981 would amount to $215,751. Its contribution to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund would be not less than the previous year's figure of $22,482; the final decision would be communicated to the Secretariat in due course. His Government would contribute $2,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women and $44,000 to the United Nations Fund for Population Activities. No instructions had thus far been received concerning other funds, and the relevant information would therefore be transmitted to the Secretariat later.

3. The representative of TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO announced pledges by his Government of $TT 400,000 to UNDP, $TT 48,000 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, $TT 25,000 to UNICEF, $US 1,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, $TT 2,420 to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women and $US 1,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women.

4. The representative of TUNISIA announced that his Government would contribute to nine programmes, for five of which its contribution would be increased by 15 per cent, and that it would participate for the first time in the United Nations Volunteers programme. Its contribution to UNDP would be 223,206 Tunisian dinars, equivalent to $US 558,015. That amount comprised D 138,862, or $347,155, for

(The representative of Tunisia)

operational activities and D 84,344, or $210,860, for the operation of the United Nations Office in Tunis. The latter figure represented an increase of 15 per cent over 1980 and 30 per cent over 1979.

5. With regard to the other funds and programmes, his Government pledged the following: D 1,625, or $4,062.50, to the United Nations Capital Development Fund; D 966, or $2,415, to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries; D 11,500, or $28,750, to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation; D 2,000, or $5,000, to the United Nations Volunteers programme; D 1,110, or $2,750, to UNITAR, representing an increase of 15 per cent; D 11,500, or $28,750, to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund, representing an increase of 15 per cent; D 29,095, or $72,735.50, to UNICEF, also representing an increase of 15 per cent, to be apportioned as follows: D 19,837, or $49,592.50, for the regular budget of UNICEF and D 9,258, or $23,145, for the operation of the Regional Office in Algeria; and D 10,350, or $25,875, to UNFPA, again representing a 15 per cent increase.

6. Science and technology played an essential role in development activities. Consequently, Tunisia, which had previously pledged a contribution of $100,000 to the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, hoped that both industrialized and developing countries would substantially increase their contributions to the Interim Fund and thus help to strengthen the development programmes of the United Nations.

7. Mr. Ghikas (Greece) took the Chair.

8. The representative of TURKEY said that his Government had decided to maintain its contribution for most of the funds at the previous year's levels, despite the economic strains Turkey was facing at present. Furthermore, the possibility of increasing its current contribution to UNDP was under examination, and the result of that examination would be announced at a later stage.

9. Turkey would contribute $765,765 in convertible currency to UNDP, $153,153 in convertible currency to UNCDF, the equivalent in dollars of 15 million Turkish lire to the Industrial Development Fund of UNIDO, the equivalent in Turkish lire of $5,000 to UNFPA and the equivalent in Turkish lire of $90,000 to the World Food Programme. In addition, the equivalent in Turkish lire of $5,000 would be contributed to the local operating costs of the Programme in Turkey. The contribution to UNICEF would be communicated at a later date. All those contributions would be subject to budgetary approval, which was expected to be forthcoming.

10. The representative of UGANDA said that, although his country was facing unprecedented economic problems, it attached importance to United Nations development activities and would therefore contribute a total amount of 1,140,000 Ugandan shillings, equivalent to approximately $130,000. Details of the contributions to individual United Nations funds would be transmitted at a later date.

11. The representative of the UKRAINIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC said that his

(The representative of the Ukrainian SSR)

Government was considering the voluntary contribution which it would be making to UNDP and UNICEF and would communicate the exact figures shortly. The external assistance provided to developing countries through United Nations programmes and funds constituted only supplementary aid which could not resolve the problems. The development of Latin America, Asia and Africa depended on the achievement of genuine economic independence and freedom from foreign monopolistic capital through radical socio-economic transformation and a restructuring of international relations on a just, equitable and democratic basis.

12. The representative of the UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS said that the USSR was doing its utmost to assist developing countries to solve their social and economic problems on the basis of bilateral agreements and through international organizations. Soviet participation in UNDP, UNIDF and UNICEF was one means of giving aid to developing countries in strengthening their economies and in such fields as training, health and education. The Soviet Union was prepared to increase its co-operation with all interested countries in those and other spheres.

13. The USSR wished it to be known that it was meeting with unnecessary obstacles in the process of strengthening development co-operation, for example, the failure of the UNDP Administration to take the necessary measures to ensure the effective utilization of Soviet contributions. The USSR supported the aims of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade and had already submitted constructive proposals in that connexion to the UNDP Administration and the Department of Technical Co-operation for Development. The solution to problems of economic co-operation and the activities of the United Nations was dependent on the solution of the most serious political and social problems of the present time; social and economic development needed substantial resources, which should be obtained by disarmament. In that connexion he recalled that Mr. Gromyko, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Soviet Union, had said in his statement to the General Assembly that the Soviet Union was ready to proceed to negotiations on specific reductions in absolute figures or in terms of percentage points, of military budgets of States permanent members of the Security Council, as well as of other States with large economic and military potential (A/35/PV.6). The Government of the Soviet Union was considering the matter of its voluntary contributions to United Nations funds and programmes for 1981 and would transmit the relevant information at a later date.

14. The representative of the UNITED ARAB EMIRATES said that his Government had always supported the organizations of the development system and contributed to their activities, and that it would adhere to that policy in the future. His delegation was not yet in a position to announce the exact amount of its contributions and would notify the Secretary-General as soon as possible.

15. The representative of the UNITED KINGDOM said that in 1981 his Government would make the following contributions to the funds of the United Nations development system: for UNDP, £17.5 million, or approximately $US 42.5 million, an increase of some 23 per cent over the figure for the previous year; for UNICEF, £5.9 million, which was again a considerable increase over the previous year's figure; and for UNFPA, £2 million. Those amounts were subject to parliamentary approval.

16. The representative of the UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON announced that for the period 1980-1981 his Government would contribute to UNDP CFA francs 63.8 million, of which the amount of CFAF 12.6 million was for UNDP itself, CFAF 15,075,000 for the UNDP Office in Yaoundé, CFAF 35,861,000 for local UNDP programmes and CFAF 264,000 for UNCDF. In view of the importance which his country attached to UNICEF programmes, his Government had decided to treble its contribution, raising it to CFAF 21,934,000. It would also contribute CFAF 3 million to the Trust Fund for Sudano-Sahelian Activities and CFAF 500,000 for each of the following: Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women, UNITAR, and the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation. His Government would also contribute CFAF 1 million to UNIDO, CFAF 250,000 to UNFPA and CFAF 6,250,000 to the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. In addition to the resources which it allotted for national and regional projects connected with the Decade, the sum which he had announced was his Government's second contribution to the Decade. It was to be hoped that the meetings held in pursuance of Economic and Social Council resolution 1980/46 would result in the provision of sufficient resources for the timely implementation of the various projects planned within the framework of the Decade. His Government's contributions to other programmes and funds would be communicated to the Secretariat at the appropriate time. He emphasized the fact that all his Government's contributions would be made in convertible currency.

17. The representative of the UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA announced that his Government would contribute 500,000 Tanzanian shillings to UNDP and TSh 215,000 to the UNDP Office in his country. It would also contribute TSh 20,000 to UNCDF, TSh 60,000 to UNITAR, TSh 20,000 to UNIDO, TSh 185,000 to WFP, TSh 280,000 to UNICEF, $US 2,441.89 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women and $US 2,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation. His Government was considering the possibility of making contributions to programmes of the United Nations system; they would be notified to the Secretariat through the usual channels in due course.

18. The representative of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA said that his Government's voluntary contributions for 1981 to UNDP, UNICEF, UNCDF, the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women and UNFPA were all currently being considered by the United States Congress and his Government would announce its contributions as soon as the Congress had taken action.

19. With regard to United States support for the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, the preparation of the budget for the next fiscal year having just begun, his delegation was not in a position to announce a pledge for the second year of the Fund. The United States had actively supported the establishment of the Fund and was pleased at the successful start made and the interest which the Governments of developing countries had shown in

(The representative of the United States)

improving their own capabilities for using science and technology for development, as evidenced by many project requests already submitted and the initiative of developing countries in seeking additional resources.

20. The representative of URUGUAY said that his country intended to increase its voluntary contribution to UNIDO from $US 10 million to $US 15 million. His Government's other voluntary contributions to operational activities for development would be communicated to the Secretariat as soon as the appropriate decisions had been taken.

21. The representative of VIET NAM said that, despite the difficulties which his country had experienced as a result of war and natural disasters, his Government would make contributions in national currency for 1981 equivalent to: $5,000 for UNDP, $1,000 for UNCDF, $1,000 for UNIDO, $1,000 for UNFPA and $5,000 for UNICEF. Those contributions, although token amounts, were an expression of the high regard in which Viet Nam held its growing co-operation with the United Nations system in development activities.

22. The representative of YEMEN announced that for 1981 his Government would contribute $80,000 to UNDP, $2,000 to UNCDF, $6,000 to WFP and $3,000 to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development. Regarding contributions to UNICEF and UNIDO, his delegation would inform the Secretariat as soon as it received the necessary instructions.

23. The representative of YUGOSLAVIA said that for administrative reasons there had been a slight delay in his Government's decisions regarding the amounts which it would contribute to development activities, but a decision would be taken in the next few days. Consequently, his delegation was not able at the present time to announce any contribution but would inform the Secretariat in writing in due course.

24. The representative of ZAMBIA said that, given the unfavourable economic situation currently prevailing in Zambia, the Government, subject to parliamentary approval, intended to make the following contributions: $14,000 to UNIDO, $25,000 to UNDP, $25,000 to UNCDF, $35,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, $20,000 to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, $20,000 to UNFPA, and $25,000 to UNICEF. Information concerning the amount to be designated for meeting local costs would be communicated to the Secretariat when Parliament had adopted its decision, in early 1981.

25. The representative of ZIMBABWE said that the new Republic of Zimbabwe was making its first appearance at the Pledging Conference, not as a contributor to the various funds, but as a beneficiary of some of them. Zimbabwe pledged its total commitment to the United Nations concept of international mutual assistance. As a beneficiary of international support, the new Republic of Zimbabwe had already received a total amount of 43 million Zimbabwean dollars for rehabilitation activities in such areas as rural and urban transport infrastructure, agriculture, training programmes for farmers, and the provision of social and other services

(The representative of Zimbabwe)

for war victims. That sum, however, fell far short of the total amount of 200 million Zimbabwean dollars that would be required over the next two or three years to put Zimbabwe's economy on the road to recovery. Despite the obvious economic and financial difficulties facing Zimbabwe at present, the Government was determined to pledge material and financial contributions at the Conference next year; such contributions would be in accordance with Zimbabwe's economic potential.

26. The representative of AFGHANISTAN said that his Government attached great importance to United Nations operational activities for development and the role of the international organizations and funds of the system. Afghanistan had benefited from such activities, although not to the level of its expectations. However, despite the numerous resolutions which had been adopted by the General Assembly and other international bodies to increase the flow of financial resources and technical assistance to the least developed and land-locked countries, some organizations of the United Nations system had recently slowed down or blocked programmes and projects and the shipment of food and equipment to Afghanistan and, in fact, had given up rendering assistance to it. Afghanistan was confident that in coming years those organizations and funds would take into account the measures in favour of least developed and land-locked countries set forth in United Nations resolutions and would allocate the necessary amount of assistance to Afghanistan on an immediate and priority basis. The Government of Afghanistan was currently considering its pledges to various development organizations and funds of the United Nations system. The exact amount of its contribution would be officially communicated in due course.

27. The representative of ALBANIA said that his Government would contribute 30,000 leks in national currency to UNDP.

28. The representative of ALGERIA said that his Government attached great importance to activities financed from voluntary contributions; for many countries, especially the least developed, such assistance was a vital, not a subsidiary, form of development assistance. The natural disaster which had occurred recently in his country, in addition to causing grave loss of life, had resulted in considerable material damage, which had seriously jeopardized Algeria's development plans. However, in view of the prime importance of United Nations activities, Algeria's contribution would not be lower than in the previous year. Consequently, he was pleased to be able to state that the Government of Algeria would contribute $665,000 to UNDP, $29,280 to UNCDF, $113,130 to UNICEF, $40,000 to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, $80,500 to UNIDO and $10,000 to UNITAR.

29. The representative of ARGENTINA said that his Government would make a voluntary contribution of $250,000 to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development. That amount could be deposited immediately, since it had been provided for in the national budget for 1980. The level of the other contributions to development activities in 1981 would be communicated to the Secretariat once the new budget estimates had been approved.

30. The representative of AUSTRALIA said that her Government pledged the following amounts for United Nations development activities in 1981: $US 2.8 million for UNICEF, which represented a 20-per-cent increase over its 1980 contribution; $US 994,000 to UNFPA, which was 16 per cent more than in 1980; and $US 40,000 for UNITAR. Those three contributions would be paid in full in the first half of 1981. The Australian Government would also make a contribution of $US 500,000 to the Fund of UNEP and a contribution of $US 100,000 to a desertification control project in Somalia for which the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office was acting as agent. The amount pledged by her Government to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women had been increased to $US 255,500, as had been announced at the Copenhagen Conference; $US 70,000 had already been paid. Her country's contribution to UNDP, which would be announced later, would not be less than the amount pledged in 1980 and would be paid in full in July or August 1981. All the contributions would be made in Australian dollars, which were fully convertible.

31. The representative of AUSTRIA announced the following contributions by his Government: $6 million to UNDP, which represented a 10-per-cent increase over its contribution for 1980; 12 million Austrian schillings, fully convertible, to UNICEF, which was 30 per cent more than in 1980; $7,700 to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers, which was an increase of almost 10 per cent over 1980; $21,200 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; $11,800 to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women; and $36,200 to UNFPA, which was an increase of more than 10 per cent over 1980. Subject to parliamentary approval, the Austrian Government pledged an amount of 11.8 million Austrian schillings to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund - an increase of almost 20 per cent over 1980 - of which S 1 million represented an untied contribution and the remaining amount of S 10.8 million was for specific projects and programmes planned for the coming year. The Austrian Government, which had already contributed $1 million to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development in 1980, intended to contribute, subject to parliamentary approval, another amount of $1 million in 1981.

32. Mr. El-Jeaan (Kuwait) took the Chair.

33. The representative of the BAHAMAS said that her Government would contribute $1,000 to UNFPA; any other pledges would be communicated later to the Secretariat.

34. The representative of BAHRAIN said that his Government pledged the following amounts: $56,000 for UNDP, $7,500 for UNICEF and $5,000 for UNIDF.

35. The representative of BANGLADESH announced the following pledges: an amount equivalent to $152,400 for UNDP, which represented a 20-per-cent increase over 1980; 650,000 taka to cover UNDP local office costs in Bangladesh; $2,989 for UNCDF; $5,000 for the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat); $2,000 for UNEP; $2,000 for UNICEF; and 2,000 tons of rice for WFP for the biennium 1980-1981. Bangladesh had already stated that it would contribute $2,000 to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development. He

(The representative of Bangladesh)

was unable to announce his Government's pledges to UNFPA, UNIDF and the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, concerning which the Secretariat would be informed later.

36. The representative of BELGIUM said that his Government was not at present able to make its pledges for 1981 and that the relevant information would be communicated to the Secretariat at a later date.

37. The representative of BENIN announced pledges in the following amounts: $5,000 for UNDP, $2,000 for UNFPA, $2,000 for UNEP and $2,000 for WFP. Those contributions, although modest in absolute terms, were sizable in relation to the resources and needs of Benin, which was one of the least developed countries.

38. The representative of BHUTAN, after expressing his delegation's gratitude to the various international organizations that had contributed to his country's economic and social development, announced that, despite the serious financial and economic difficulties facing his Government, it would make the following contributions: $US 2,990 to UNDP, $2,200 to UNICEF, $1,000 to UNCDF, $1,100 to UNFPA, $1,000 to UNIDF, $500 to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers, $1,000 to WFP for 1981-1982 and $1,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries.

39. The representative of BOLIVIA announced the following contributions: $US 15,000 to UNDP, $16,000 to UNICEF, $1,000 to UNIDO and $1,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries. As far as other programmes were concerned, his delegation was not in a position to make any specific pledge, but it would communicate the relevant information to the Secretariat as soon as possible.

40. The representative of BOTSWANA stressed the importance of United Nations operational activities for development, especially in view of the negative trends in the economic growth of the developing countries, in particular the least developed countries. He announced that, in that spirit, his Government had decided to make the following contributions, which represented an average increase of some 16 per cent over the previous year: 17,500 pula to UNDP, 4,200 pula to UNCDF, 400 pula to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers, 3,000 pula to UNIDF, 1,200 pula to UNEF, 8,200 pula to UNICEF, 1,200 pula to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries, 1,200 pula to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and 1,200 pula to UNFPA.

41. The representative of BRAZIL announced the following contributions: $US 2,295,960 - of which $281,960 would be paid in cruzeiros - to UNDP, which represented an increase of 14 per cent over the previous year; $10,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries; $10,000 to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers; $85,000 to UNICEF; $15,000 to UNIDF; and $3,000 to the International Research and Training Institute

(The representative of Brazil)

for the Advancement of Women. He would indicate subsequently the amounts his Government would contribute to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development and to the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa. Lastly, he noted that his delegation had announced previously that his Government's contribution of food supplies to WFP would be increased by the equivalent of $US 100,000. Half of those supplies were already available for delivery to the Programme and the remainder would be ready in early 1981.

42. The representative of BULGARIA announced the following contributions: 550,000 levs to UNDP, which represented an increase of 14 per cent over the previous year; 100,000 levs to programme costs for 1981; and 50,000 levs to UNIDO, which represented an increase of 11 per cent over the previous year. With regard to UNDP, he expressed his firm conviction that its universal character would be maintained for the common benefit of all countries and, in that connexion, he reiterated his Government's position regarding preparations for the third programming cycle and the data used to determine indicative planning figures (IPFs) for countries that were not members of the World Bank.

43. The representative of BURMA announced the following contributions: 850,000 kyats to UNDP; the equivalent of $100,000 in Burmese currency to UNIDF; 50,000 kyats to UNFPA; and 26,500 pounds sterling, together with 30,000 kyats, to UNICEF.

44. The representative of BURUNDI said that, despite the difficulties inherent in Burundi's status as a least developed, land-locked country, his Government had decided as an expression of its appreciation for the work of UNDP in the developing countries, to contribute 2 million Burundi francs ($US 22,580) for the activities of that Programme. As to the other funds, activities and programmes, he was not yet in a position to indicate the amount of Burundi's contribution, but he would communicate that information to the Secretariat at a later date.

45. The representative of the BYELORUSSIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC stated that the assistance provided through United Nations programmes and funds played only a supplementary role in national social and economic development. Moreover, the contributions of countries were not always used effectively; that had occurred, for example, in the case of UNDP. The voluntary contributions of the Byelorussian SSR for 1981 would be announced at a later stage.

46. The representative of CANADA said that his Government would contribute 41 million Canadian dollars to UNDP, $Can 10 million to UNICEF and $Can 7.7 million to UNFPA for 1981-1982. Those contributions represented an increase of approximately 10 per cent over Canada's contributions for 1980-1981. In addition, he announced a contribution to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements of $Can 500,000, for the three-year period starting from the fourth quarter of 1980, for the support of the Centre's Information Office for North America at Vancouver. All those pledges were subject to parliamentary approval.

47. The representative of CAPE VERDE announced that his Government would make symbolic contributionsof $US 2,000 to UNDP and $1,000 to UNEF. Other contributions would be communicated to the Secretariat at a later date.

48. The representative of CHILE said that his Government would contribute $US 750,000 to UNDP, of which $150,000 were intended to meet the costs of the Office of the Resident Representative in Santiago; $210,000 to UNICEF, of which $10,000 were for the functioning of the Regional Office for the Americas; $6,000 to UNIDF; $20,000 to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development; $5,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; $3,000 to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women; $5,000 to UNFPA; and $3,500 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation.

49. The representative of CHINA said that his Government would pledge the following contributions for 1981: $US 1.4 million to UNDP; 500,000 yuan to UNIDF and $70,000 for UNIDO projects undertaken by his country; 200,000 yuan together with $150,000, to UNFPA; 100,000 yuan and $150,000 to UNICEF; 200,000 yuan to UNCDF; $50,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; and 40,000 yuan, together with $20,000, to UNITAR. His Government's contribution to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development had been announced earlier.

50. The representative of COLOMBIA said that his Government would contribute $US 609,500 to UNDP, $350,000 to UNICEF, $40,000 to UNFPA, $10,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and $5,000 to UNIDO. Any future contributions would be communicated to the Secretariat at a later date.

51. The representative of the CONGO said that, despite his country's economic difficulties and limited means, his Government would make the following symbolic contributions: $US 5,000 to UNDP, $2,000 to UNIDF, $500 to UNFPA, $1,500 to UNICEF and $1,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women.

52. The representative of CUBA announced that his Government would pledge to UNDP 310,281 Cuban pesos as a voluntary contribution to the Programme (which included a 14-per-cent increase over the current year) and 216,000 as a voluntary contribution for programme costs; in addition, it would contribute 20,000 pesos to UNCDF and $US 100,000, together with 15,000 pesos, to UNICEF. It would also make the following contributions: to UNFPA, 10 experts for short-term assignments and two annual fellowships of 10 months each, at a total value of $9,500; to UNIDF, $4,000 and 21,000 pesos; to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, 55,000 pesos; and to WFP, 5,000 tons of sugar. It would contribute to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in the following manner: the services of two Cuban experts

(The representative of Cuba)

in child nutrition, for three to six months in 1981; short-term and medium-term training grants for middle-level technical personnel in matters of nutrition and food hygiene at the Cuban Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology; specialized courses for doctors in nutrition and food hygiene at the Cuban Institute of Hygiene and Epidemiology; 10 fellowships for short-term training courses for health workers; 10 fellowships for short-term training courses for leaders of women's organizations; 5 intermediate-level technical fellowships for teachers at children's centres; and 5 intermediate-level technical fellowships in different agricultural specialties.

53. Mr. Muñoz Ledo (Mexico) resumed the Chair.

54. The representative of CYPRUS said that he was not in a position to announce his Government's contributions for the time being, but would communicate them later to the Secretariat.

55. The representative of CZECHOSLOVAKIA said that his Government would provide 7 million Czechoslovak korunas for UNDP and would contribute Kcs 2 million to UNIDF. Since 1979, his Government's voluntary contribution to UNIDF had risen from Kcs 1,250,000 to Kcs 2 million, an increase of 60 per cent. In 1981, its contribution would be used in particular to finance centres for training in the use of diesel motors as well as joint Czechoslovak/UNIDO programmes in pottery, industrial building materials and non-metallic materials. His Government would also contribute Kcs 1 million to UNICEF and Kcs 300,000 to UNEP.

56. The representative of DEMOCRATIC YEMEN announced that his Government would contribute $6,612 to UNDP, $1,456 to UNCDF, $1,733 to UNFPA, $2,645 to UNIDO, $5,060 to UNICEF and $1,323 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women.

57. The representative of DJIBOUTI said that his Government would contribute the equivalent of $2,000 in Djibouti currency to UNDP and a similar amount to UNICEF, to UNFPA and to UNIDO.

58. The representative of DENMARK said that all his Government's contributions were subject to parliamentary approval and would be paid in convertible currency. The contribution to UNDP for 1981 would be $328 million Danish kroner, equivalent to approximately $57.5 million. Contributions for 1982 and 1983 would be at least equal to that for 1981. The Danish Government would contribute DKr 50 million to the UNCDF, the equivalent of some $2.6 million. Its contribution for 1982 and 1983 would be at least equal to that for 1981. The contribution to the United Nations Volunteers programme for 1981 would be DKr 90,000, or approximately $16,000. In the light of the UNDP Governing Council's decision at its twenty-fourth session that the expenses of the Volunteers programme for 1982 would be financed out of the Indicative Planning Figures of the recipient countries, the Danish Government would not continue its contributions to the United Nations Volunteers programme after 1981.

(The representative of Denmark)

59. The Danish Government had already announced its contribution to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development for 1981, which was to be DKr 5.5 million, or the equivalent of $965,000. It would contribute the same amount to the Fund in 1982. The contribution to UNICEF for 1981 would be DKr 35.8 million, or some $6.3 million. That was an increase of 10 per cent over the contribution for 1980. The contribution to UNICEF for 1982 and 1983 would be higher than that for 1981. In 1981, Denmark would contribute DKr 36 million to UNFPA, equivalent to approximately $6.3 million, which was a 20-per-cent increase over 1980. Contributions for 1982 and 1983 would be at least equal to that for 1981.

60. In 1979 the Danish Government had pledged the amount of DKr 1.5 million to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women to finance specific projects; of that amount DKr 270,000, or approximately $47,000 was still unused and would be available for project financing in 1981. With regard to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, the Danish contribution for 1981 would be DKr 275,000, or approximately $48,000. It would contribute the same amount in 1982. Its contribution to UNITAR for 1981 would be DKr 300,000, equivalent to approximately $53,000. Contributions for 1982 and 1983 would be equal to that for 1981.

61. In conclusion, he said that the Danish Government attached great importance to the need to make contributions to the Untied Nations system in the form of convertible currency, since contributions in non-convertible currency constituted a form of tied aid. His Government welcomed the forthcoming establishment of a Gulf Arab Special Foundation for United Nations Social Development Activities.

62. The representative of the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC said he regretted to inform the Conference that his Government was not yet in a position to provide precise figures, as the national budget would not be completed until December. However, he was able to state that its contributions for 1981 would be maintained at their 1980 level and that his country would contribute 10,000 Dominican pesos to UNICEF, the equivalent of an equal amount of dollars. As soon as the budget was finally approved, he would convey to the Secretariat the exact figures for his Government's pledges.

63. The representative of EGYPT announced that his country would contribute 285,912 Egyptian pounds to UNDP, a 14-per-cent increase over 1980. Of that sum, LE 46,156 would go towards the operating expenses of the UNDP Regional Office in Cairo. In addition, Egypt would contribute LE 17,392 to UNCDF, LE 52,250 to UNIDO, LE 150,000 to UNFPA, LE 59,250 to UNICEF, LE 5,000 - in addition to the LE 10,000 contributed earlier - to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, LE 2,000 to WFP, LE 50,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation and LE 3,960 to UNITAR.

64. The representative of EL SALVADOR said that 1980 had been a year of sacrifice and endeavour directed towards strengthening the national economy, establishing domestic peace, and stabilizing the democratic political process in El Salvador. In view of its currently limted resources, El Salvador would make no voluntary

(The representative of El Salvador)

contribution for the time being. It would convey to the Secretary-General at a later stage such pledges as it was in a position to make.

65. The representative of FIJI said that his country, which supported the contribution of United Nations funds and programmes to development activities in the developing countries, particularly island developing countries such as Fiji, would contribute $50,000 to UNDP, $15,000 to the Regional Office of UNDP in Suva, Fiji, $1,000 to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development, $2,000 to UNICEF, $1,100 to UNIDF and $2,000 to UNFPA. Those sums were subject to the normal parliamentary approval. Fiji would also contribute to other United Nations activities and would communicate the amounts to the Secretariat in due course.

66. The representative of ECUADOR said that his country, which endorsed the principle of the universal and voluntary nature of UNDP, as reaffirmed by the UNDP Governing Council at its twenty-seventh session, and the Council's reaffirmation of the New Delhi Consensus of 1970 and agreed on the need for an annual increase in contributions of not less than 14 per cent, considered that it would be a demonstration of genuine international co-operation on the part of the industrialized countries if they were to increase UNDP's resources to at least three times their current level, or over $2 thousand million during the third cycle.

67. Ecuador, as a developing country, was unable to contribute very much towards financing the Programme, in comparison with what ought to be done by the more advantaged countries. However, in recognition of the services rendered by UNDP to the development of the countries of Latin America, he had been authorized by his Government to announce that Eduador's contribution in convertible currency, which was to have been made in two instalments, would be paid in full in 1981 and would represent a 100-per-cent increase over the 1980 contribution of $228,000. Consequently, its contribution would rise to $456,000, which, together with the sum of $240,000 to cover local costs, gave a total of $696,000 for 1981. To UNICEF Ecuador would contribute 938,000 sucres, equivalent to $37,520. With regard to other funds and programmes, his Government was studying the amount of the contributions concerned and would make the appropriate announcement as soon as possible.

68. The representative of FINLAND announced that, subject to parliamentary approval, his Government would contribute 33,8 million Finnish marks to UNDP - the equivalent of $US 9.26 million and an increase of more than 18 per cent over 1980. That substantial increase reflected the special importance which Finland attached to UNDP's role in financing and co-ordinating technical assistance activities within the United Nations system. The Government of Finland would like to see that role strengthened by the provision of increased financial resources to UNDP on a stable and predictable basis, and thought that discussions ought to be pursued in that regard with a view to achieving early tangible results. Finland would contribute Fmk 1.8 million to UNCDF, the equivalent of $500.000 and more than double its contribution for the current year. The United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development would receive an initial contribution from the Finnish Government to the value of Fmk 4 million, equivalent to $1.1 million.

(The representative of Finland)

69. Finland's contribution to UNICEF would be Fmk 8.5 million - the equivalent of $2.3 million - which represented an increase of 40 per cent over its contribution for 1980. His Government would also contribute Fmk 300,000 - the equivalent of $82,000 - to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women and Fmk 2 million, the equivalent of $548,000, to UNFPA, representing an increase of more than 50 per cent over its contribution for 1980. Finland had signed a separate multi-bilateral agreement with UNFPA for assistance to the population programme of Nicaragua. Its contribution to that programme for 1980 and 1981 had been Fmk 2 million, or the equivalent of $548,000. The programme would be continued in 1982. His Government would contribute Fmk 300,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, the equivalent of $82,000. His Government had previously announced a contribution to WFP for the period 1981-1982 of not less than 20,000 tonnes of food grains and 1,000 tonnes of cheese each year. The total value of that contribution was estimated at Fmk 47 million or $12.9 million, representing a substantial increase in the food aid provided by Finland. As a further sign of its commitment to alleviating the critical food shortages in developing countries, his Government would contribute to the International Emergency Food Reserve in 1982. A possible interim contribution to the reserve for 1981 would be specified at a later stage. Lastly, he announced that his Government had decided to become a contributor to the activities of the United Nations Sudano-Sahelian Office. The amount of the assistance to be provided would be announced as soon as the necessary budgetary procedures had been completed.

70. The representative of FRANCE said that her Government was currently making a special effort to substantially increase its assistance to international agencies; that assistance had grown by 55 per cent between 1978 and 1979. It had focused its efforts, in particular, on the organizations of the United Nations system, especially the World Bank, UNDP and IFAD, and it planned to continue to do so in the years ahead.

71. Subject to parliamentary approval, her Government was pleased to announce that it would contribute, for 1981, F 136 million, equivalent to some $31 million, to UNDP; F 10,380,875 to UNICEF, over and above $1 million which France had contributed in 1980 for assistance to Afghan refugees in Pakistan; F 2,250,000 to UNIDF; F 637,000 to UNITAR, of which F 425,000 were earmarked for the Centre for Disarmament; F 425,000 to UNFPA; and F 300,000 to the United Nations Research Institute for Social Development. It would also make a contribution of F 8 million to WFP. In that connexion, it should be recalled that France had contributed F 22 million in grain and in kind to the International Emergency Food Reserve, which was equivalent to approximately $5 million; it would endeavour to make a further significant contribution in 1981. Her Government would also contribute F 6 million to UNEP, F 400,000 to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, F 100,000 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women and F 850,000 to the Research Fund for Development. All those contributions would be made in convertible currency.

72. The representative of the GAMBIA said that, owing to his country's budgetary procedures, he was not yet in a position to announce his Government's pledges. The Secretariat would be notified of the contributions as soon as possible.

73. The representative of the GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC said that for 1981 his Government would contribute DDRM 2 million to UNDP, DDRM 320,000 to UNIDF, and DDRM 280,000 to UNICEF. Those contributions would be made available on the same terms as in 1980. His country's active co-operation with UNDP, UNIDO and UNICEF was aimed at assisting the liberated States of Asia, Africa and Latin America to solve the complex problems which they were facing in their economic and social development, and to promote peaceful co-operation among States. Funds raised by the working people and other social forces in the German Democratic Republic during the past year had made it possible to provide nearly DDRM 340 million in goods and services to developing countries and national liberation movements.

74. His delegation appreciated the efforts of the United Nations Secretariat to ensure the maximum utilization of his country's voluntary contributions. However, the results thus far achieved were not satisfactory. Despite some improvement the preceding year, UNDP had still not utilized a substantial proportion of his country's contributions. Further effort should be made to make more effective use of supplies and services from the German Democratic Republic.

75. The representative of the FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY said that his country had a long record of active support for the development activities of the United Nations, and that it had steadily increased its multilateral assistance in recent years. Thus, official contributions to multilateral agencies had amounted to $1.19 billion in 1979, as against $790 million in 1978. Owing to the recent general elections in the Federal Republic of Germany, preparations for the 1981 federal budget had started later than planned. Accordingly, it was not possible at the current stage to announce the exact amounts which his Government would contribute to the various programmes and funds. Its pledges would be communicated as soon as the federal budget was approved. He wished nevertheless to refer briefly to the main institutions which would receive assistance from his Government.

76. His delegation reaffirmed its support for the work of UNDP and commended its Administraror and staff on the achievements of the Programme. It hoped that a satisfactory solution could be found to the problem of the utilization of non-convertible currencies. His delegation was also pleased with the work carried out by UNFPA, whose catalytic role with regard to population programmes and family planning policies was a decisive factor in the economic and social development of the developing countries. With regard to UNICEF, his Government and the UNICEF National Committee had increased and would continue to increase the assistance they provided in various forms. His Government would endeavour to provide funds-in-trust for specific projects, in addition to its contributions to the regular budget of UNICEF. It would also continue to contribute to the United Nations Volunteers programme. With regard to WFP, his delegation had announced at the pledging conference for the period 1981-1982, held on 21 February 1980, a pledge of DM 87 million. In recent years his Government had intensified its co-operation with UNIDO and had steadily expanded its special-purpose contributions to UNIDF. It planned to continue that form of co-operation in 1981, subject to mutual agreement on the projects in question. At the third session of the Commission on Human Settlements, his Government had pledged

(The representative of the Federal Republic of Germany)

DM 1 million to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation. That contribution had already been disbursed and would be available to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) for the implementation of its 1980-1981 work programme.

77. The representative of GHANA said that he was not in a position to announce his Government's contributions to United Nations development activities for 1981, but would inform the Secretariat of its pledges at a later stage.

78. The representative of GREECE announced that subject to parliamentary approval, his Government would contribute $730,000 to UNDP - an increase of 12.3 per cent over the previous year's contribution; $5,000 to UNCDF; $25,000 to UNIDF; $7,000 to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements); $3,500 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; $120,000 to UNICEF; and $4,000 to UNITAR. His Government had already announced a contribution of $50,000 to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development for the biennium 1980-1981.

79. The representative of GRENADA pledged the equivalent of $16,500 in local currency to UNDP, which represented an increase of 10 per cent over his country's contribution for the preceding year. His Government intended to pay the amounts it had pledged for 1978-1979 - the equivalent in local currency of some $49,222 - over a four-year period beginning in 1981.

80. The representative of GUATEMALA pledged the following contributions: $US 189,000 to UNDP; $30,000 to UNICEF; $5,000 to UNIDF; and $5,000 to UNFPA.

81. The representative of GUINEA-BISSAU pledged the following contributions in non-convertible local currency: 35,000 Guinea-Bissau pesos to UNDP; 15,000 pesos to UNFPA; 35,000 pesos to UNICEF; 150,000 pesos to UNIDF; 15,000 pesos to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; 15,000 pesos to UNCDF; 15,000 pesos to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development; and 15,000 pesos to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries.

82. The representative of HAITI said that his country's contributions to UNICEF and UNDP pledged at the previous meeting had been amended to $16,000 to UNICEF and $6,000 to UNDP.

83. The representative of LESOTHO said that his Government would make the following contributions for 1981 in convertible currency: the equivalent of $38,916 to UNDP; $2,055 to UNICEF; $2,000 to UNIDF; $1,000 to UNCDF; $1,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries; $1,000 to UNFPA; $500 to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women; and $200 to the Special Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Volunteers. All those contributions were subject to parliamentary approval.

84. The representative of MALAWI said that his Government would contribute $30,000 to UNDP; $7,500 to UNCDF; $2,000 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries; $1,650 to UNFPA; and $4,500 to UNICEF.

85. The representative of MALI pledged the following contributions by his Government: $2,000 to UNDP; $450 to UNCDF; $500 to the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries; $450 to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration; $750 to the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa; and $1,561 to UNITAR.

86. The representative of SINGAPORE said that her Government would contribute $220,000 to UNDP in 1981, of which $120,000 would go to meet programme costs. Her Government was considering the possibility of making contributions to other funds, and the amounts involved would be communicated in due course.

87. The representative of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC said that his Government would contribute 2,000 Syrian pounds to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women and 4,000 pounds to UNHCR. Contributions to other funds were awaiting parliamentary approval and would be communicated in due course.

88. The representative of COSTA RICA said that her country's draft budget for 1981 included a very substantial amount for contributions to United Nations development activities. The Secretariat would be notified of the amount of those contributions as soon as the budget was approved.

89. The representative of JAPAN said that over the past three years his Government had attempted to double its official development assistance. However, the budget for the 1980 financial year had been financed with a disproportionately high rate of borrowing of over 30 per cent. The restructuring of the budget was currently his country's most urgent task. That meant that all expenditure would be reviewed, which would inevitably restrict the amount of Japan's contributions to the United Nations system's development programmes in 1981. In Japan the financial year ran from April to March. If the pledging conference were held in January or February of the following year, Japan would be able to announce the exact amounts of its contributions, subject to parliamentary approval.

90. His Government attached great importance to UNDP and had substantially increased its contributions during the second cycle. In 1980 it had contributed a total of $41 million - 17 per cent more than in the previous year. It hoped that it would be able to continue to increase its support for UNDP in 1981. In recognition of the contribution made by UNCDF, Japan had contributed $1 million in 1980 and was considering the possibility of making a similar contribution in 1981. With reference to the United Nations Revolving Fund for Natural Resources Exploration, Japan, which had provided 67 per cent of the contributions to that Fund, hoped that other countries, developed and developing, would co-operate more actively. Japan hoped to maintain its contributions to that Fund.

91. In Japan's view, technical co-operation in the United Nations system should be channelled primarily through UNDP; however, it recognized that UNIDF assigned high priority to programmes and projects corresponding to the special needs of

(The representative of Japan)

the least developed countries and for that reason his Government hoped to continue co-operating with that Fund in 1981. It also hoped to make a contribution of some $100,000 in 1981 to the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women. Japan had contributed $23.5 million to UNFPA in 1980 and it was planning to make an appropriate contribution in 1981.

92. The representative of the NIGER said that he was unfortunately not in a position to announce his Government's contributions to the various programmes at the Conference. Each agency would be notified of its pledges at the appropriate time.

93. The representative of VENEZUELA said that his Government would contribute the equivalent of $2.2 million to UNDP; $100,000 to the United Nations Interim Fund for Science and Technology for Development; $200,000 to UNICEF; and $21,000 to UNIDO. He was not in a position to announce any further contributions, which would be communicated to the Secretary-General at a later date.

94. The representative of MOROCCO said that his Government would contribute 1,450,000 dirhams to UNDP in 1980 and would increase that sum by 10 per cent in 1981.

(b) ANNOUNCEMENT OF WRITTEN PLEDGES

95. The CHAIRMAN announced that the Solomon Islands would contribute $1,000 to UNDP and that Liberia would contribute $5,000 to the Transport and Communications Decade in Africa.

ORGANIZATION OF WORK

96. The CHAIRMAN said that the officers of the Committee considered it would be desirable to postpone the ceremony of signing the Final Act until the following day. If there was no objection, he would take it that the Conference agreed to that suggestion.

97. It was so decided.

The meeting rose at 4.30 p.m.

UNITED NATIONS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Distr.
GENERAL

A/CONF.105/SR.3
14 November 1980

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

1980 UNITED NATIONS PLEDGING CONFERENCE FOR DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 3rd MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York,
on Friday, 7 November 1980, at 10.30 a.m.

President: Mr. MUÑOZ LEDO (Mexico)

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The meeting was called to order at 11.05 a.m.

STATEMENTS REGARDING PLEDGES (continued)

1. The representative of MOZAMBIQUE said that, his Government had decided to become a member of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and to make a token contribution of $4,000 to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund.

2. Ms. KAHAL (Secretary of the Conference) said that, in accordance with rule 21 of the rules of procedure, the Secretary-General would maintain the list of pledges made or announced at the Conference until 30 June 1981. In the meantime, Member States could enter any additional pledges; the total would be published subsequently.

ADOPTION AND SIGNATURE OF THE FINAL ACT (A/CONF.105/L.1)

3. The PRESIDENT said that, if there was no objection, he would take it that the Final Act of the Conference (A/CONF.105/L.1) was adopted, and he invited the participants to append their signatures to it.

4. The Final Act was adopted and signed by representatives of Governments attending the Conference.

CLOSURE OF THE CONFERENCE

5. Mr. MORSE (Administrator, United Nations Development Programme) reported that 97 Governments had announced specific contributions to UNDP for the year 1981, totalling $482 million, including contributions towards programme costs. A number of traditional large contributors had been unable to announce their pledges because of national budgetary procedures but, even taking that into account, an approximate calculation suggested an annual rate of increase dangerously below the planning target established by the Governing Council and endorsed by the Second Committee at the current session of the General Assembly. Sadly, that would not meet the current world-wide rate of inflation, which meant that anticipated resources in 1981 would be less, in real terms, than the already unsatisfactory 1980 level. However, it was encouraging to note that some Governments had indicated their pledges on a multi-year basis to meet the concern for the predictable, assured and expanding financial base which was absolutely essential to guarantee effective programme planning. He urged all Governments in a position to do so to follow that example. From the standpoint of effective financial management, he also urged Governments to make payment of their 1981 pledges as early as possible and to settle immediately any outstanding payments for 1980 or earlier.

6. He particularly thanked the 29 Governments whose contributions for 1981 exceeded previous pledges by 14 per cent or more. It was heartening that several developing countries, including some moderate-income and low-income countries, were among that number. That demonstrated the degree to which they regarded UNDP development

assistance as a vital element in their over-all endeavours; self-help by low-income developing countries set a positive example to those with much greater ability to provide resources for development.

7. Despite those encouraging individual results, he wished to record his profound disappointment that the increase in contributions so far announced was only approximately 8 per cent. The Programme was not immune to the effects of world-wide inflation, and in real terms the result would be a second year of substantial decline. For that reason, he reiterated his urgent appeal to Governments that had not yet made a final decision on their contributions to take account of the need to ensure that the current planning cycle concluded in conditions of total financial security, and to remember that the pledges made for 1981 would significantly influence the review of the Governing Council's target for the next cycle, which was likely to be about $6,550,000 million. He also renewed his appeal to those countries which had not pledged for programme costs to do so without delay. The understanding that the change from assessed to voluntary programme costs during the current planning cycle would not result in any diminuation in contributions had unfortunately not been borne out by experience.

8. It was heartening that 35 Governments had pledged $27.6 million to the United Nations Capital Development Fund, which was an excellent example of the integration of capital assistance and technical co-operation in the United Nations system. He would like to underscore the appeal made by the Secretary-General for contributions to UNCDF. However, he was deeply concerned about the United Nations Special Fund for Land-locked Developing Countries and the Interim Fund for Science and Technology for development. Only $63,000 had been pledged to the former, and the additional $1.6 million pledged to the latter fell considerably short of the substantial demands made on the Interim Fund and was, of course, well below the Vienna target of a minimum $250 million to which Governments had pledged themselves. As he had stated at the last session of the Governing Council, it was an important principle that special-purpose funds should not be created by a well-intentioned world, only to wither for lack of financial support. A basic question of credibility was involved.

9. If the development effort was to progress effectively in an era of limited resources, it was absolutely vital that a proper capital/technical assistance ratio should be maintained in the development mix. Renewed emphasis on technical co-operation and a significant increase in resources for that purpose was being called for in the new International Development Strategy. While he was, of course deeply grateful for the increased pledges made by a number of traditional donors and for the substantial increases announced by a large number of developing countries, he would be less than honest if he failed to record his very profound concern at what some might interpret as a lack of appreciation of technical co-operation as a critical component of the development process, an erosion of support for the central funding and co-ordinating role of UNDP or an erosion of confidence in the administration of the Programme, for which he had been personally responsible since January 1976.

(Mr. Morse, UNDP)

10. In a period of persistent inflation, stagnating economies in many parts of the world were leading many Governments to reduce their public expenditure, making foreign assistance an attractive target for cuts. In the light of their obligation to pay assessments to the United Nations and its specialized agencies, as well as to meet large unanticipated demands for humanitarian assistance, and to provide the capital for the major international financial institutions, it was understandable and predictable that UNDP, entirely financed from voluntary funds, would be particularly vulnerable. Yet he urged all Governments to understand that the kind of technical co-operation UNDP provided enhanced the cost-effectiveness of the massive investments being made through the financial institutions. It was likewise necessary to understand the importance of technical co-operation in developing the all-important human resources of the developing countries. He appealed to all representatives present to inform their Governments of the urgency and gravity of the situation he had described.

11. Mr. SALAS (Executive Director, United Nations Fund for Population Activities) thanked all the countries which had pledged contributions to UNFPA, especially those which had substantially increased their contributions and those which had become contributors for the first time. Taking into account contributions still expected, the Fund's resources would probably increase by between 11 and 14 per cent in 1981. While that increase was considerable, it was far from adequate to meet the increasing demands for assistance from the Fund, and that would have implications for the programme in 1981. The Fund faced monumental tasks in seeking to stabilize the world's population by the middle of the next century, at which time it was expected to stand at some 10 billion, with cities in some 60 countries having populations of as much as 30 million. The dimensions of the population problem surpassed anything ever before experienced, and the efforts of the developing countries to solve it in accordance with their national policies must continue to be supported by the United Nations, their preferred source of assistance.

12. Mr. GRANT (Executive Director, United Nations Children's Fund) said that 84 Governments had announced pledges to the general resources of UNICEF amounting to $108 million for 1981. In addition, approximately $9 million had been pledged in the form of specific-purpose contributions. It was estimated on the basis of past experience that another $60 million or so would be pledged in the months ahead, for an estimated total of $167 million. That represented an increase of $20 million, or nearly 14 per cent, over the contributions expected for 1980, but left a shortfall of $10 million when compared to the level of contributions expected in the UNICEF medium-term work plan for 1981. Moreover, the projected increase barely covered the effects of world-wide inflation, which would seriously affect all operational activities of agencies financed from voluntary contributions. The Fund's total revenue target, as approved by the Executive Board, was $290 million for 1981, which included $75 million from the general public. The most important single source of funding remained the voluntary contributions of Governments and, since a shortfall of $10 million was projected in general resources, he sincerely hoped that donor Governments would increase their contributions for specific purposes, by that amount. The revenue target for 1981 had been set on the assumption of substantially lower inflation and before the consensus had been reached on the new International Development Strategy, which placed a high priority

(Mr. Grant, UNICEF)

on social development. New hopes and expectations had been aroused in developing nations, and an increase in requests for assistance could be expected. UNICEF had also been assigned new responsibilities by the General Assembly for the follow-up to the International Year of the Child. It was not, therefore, a time for stagnation.

13. He was conscious of the difficult economic situation and financial constraints faced by many Governments and was therefore appreciative of the efforts several had made to increase their contributions. He had been especially encouraged by the efforts of a number of developing countries to increase their contributions substantially, despite their even greater vulnerability to the prevailing world economic difficulties. Several major donors, however, had not announced increased contributions.

14. He had been gratified by the statements in support of the establishment of a Gulf Arab States Foundation, which would undoubtedly help UNICEF to meet some of the needs to which he had referred. He was also conscious that, over the years, a number of delegations had expressed concern that the burden of supporting the operational activities of the United Nations should be shared equitably. The establishment of the Gulf Arab States Foundation represented an important step in that direction, and he hoped that traditional donors to UNICEF would respond, in turn, by considerably increasing their contributions in the years ahead. He deeply appreciated the leadership of the Gulf Arab States at a critical time for the United Nations system.

15. With regard to the need to ensure increased resources in real terms on a predictable and assured basis, he noted with satisfaction that some Governments had announced multi-year pledges and hoped that others would find it possible to do so in the future.

16. Mrs. SIPILA (Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs) expressed gratitude for the pledges to the Voluntary Fund for the United Nations Decade for Women totalling $1,516,934. It was hoped that those Governments which had been unable to announce their pledges at the Conference would contribute at a later date. The best way to promote the welfare of families was to assist women, who were often bypassed by other projects. The Voluntary Fund financed projects in developing countries, especially the least developed among them, aimed at enabling women to become productive and at increasing the earning capacity of low-income women, thereby benefiting their children and families. Virtually all contributions to the Voluntary Fund were delivered to the grass-roots level, as its administrative costs amounted to only 2.8 per cent of its total budget. In that connexion, she expressed gratitude to UNFPA, UNDP and UNICEF for the administrative support they provided to the Fund.

17. She was heartened by the fact that eight countries had pledged contributions to the Voluntary Fund for the first time, including a number of developing countries which were recipients of its assistance, and that a number of developed countries were continuing to support the Fund in the first year since it had become

(Mrs. Sipila)

development-oriented. She hoped that traditional donors which had not yet announced contributions would do so in the near future. She hoped that non-governmental women's organizations, which were assigned responsibility for executing projects in many countries, might also become contributors to the Fund in future.

18. As the Director of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women had not yet been appointed, it was her pleasant duty to thank participants, on behalf of the Secretary-General, for their generous contributions to INSTRAW, totalling $275,750.

19. Mr. CROOKE (United Nations Industrial Development Organization), speaking on behalf of the Executive Director of UNIDO, expressed appreciation to the participants for their positive statements in support of the activities of UNIDO and for their pledges to the United Nations Industrial Development Fund. While there had been an encouraging increase in the number of countries making pledges, it was disappointing to note that the amount of the contributions pledged had decreased. Sixty-five countries had pledged a total of $9,095,803; however, there were some which had been unable to make pledges at the Conference but had indicated that they would do so at a later date, and it was also hoped that other countries would be able subsequently to announce pledges. It was gratifying that a number of countries had increased their contributions. Although the financial resources of the Fund were still far below the annual funding level of $50 million endorsed by the General Assembly, it was hoped that it would soon become an adequate funding source for many special technical co-operation projects in the field of industry. The UNIDO secretariat would, of course, continue to devote its best efforts to making optimum use of the limited resources now available.

20. Mr. OKALI (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)), speaking on behalf of the Executive Director of the Centre, expressed appreciation for the pledges made to the Centre for Human Settlements - Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation. As a young organization, HABITAT viewed contributions not only as an expression of support for the development activities of the United Nations but, more important, as an expression of the commitment of donors to the Centre's goals and objectives and of their confidence in its effectiveness. Particular tribute was due to the large number of developing countries which had made and continued to make voluntary contributions to the Centre. There could be no clearer indication of the priority which those countries attached to human settlements than the pledges they made despite their own difficult economic circumstances. He was confident that that message would not be lost on potential developed country donors when they considered whether or not to provide funds for development activities in that area.

21. The total amount of voluntary contributions pledged at the Conference was $1,317,511; pledges communicated directly to the Centre brought that amount to approximately $1.4 million. In addition, a sum of $143,678 had been pledged to the Centre for 1982. Although the total was several million dollars short of the amount required to carry out the Centre's 1980-1981 work programme, it was encouraging that several countries had made contributions for the first time and

(Mr. Okali, Habitat)

that many countries which were not yet in a position to announce their pledges were giving the matter active consideration. The Centre, for its part, pledged that it would use the funds entrusted to it prudently and productively.

22. The PRESIDENT announced that the pledges made at the Conference to UNITAR totalled $420,816; to UNEP, $634,754; to UNHCR, $42,325; and to WFP, $3,000.

23. He declared the 1980 United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities closed.

The meeting rose at 12.55 p.m.